

Frequently Asked Questions

Request for Information pertaining to Energy Conservation Standards for Water Closets and Urinals

1. What is the purpose of this notice?

This Request for Information (RFI) initiates the review process outlined by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and seeks input from the public to assist DOE with its determination about whether to amend the test procedures for water closets and urinals.

Information received in response to this request will inform DOE's decisions in a future test procedure rulemaking, including methods to reduce regulatory burden while ensuring the procedure is reasonably designed to produce results that measure water use or efficiency during a representative average use cycle or period of use.

This RFI is part of DOE's ongoing commitment to consider feedback from all interested stakeholders and promote an open and transparent rulemaking process.

2. What type of information is the Department looking for?

This RFI seeks comments and information from interested parties about whether DOE should amend the test procedures for water closets and urinals consistent with the most recent version of the referenced industry standard, ASME Standard 112.19.2-2018.

3. What are water closets and urinals?

A water closet is a plumbing fixture that has a water-containing receptor which receives liquid and solid body waste, and upon actuation, conveys the waste through an exposed integral trap seal into a gravity drainage system.

A urinal is as a plumbing fixture which receives only liquid body waste and, on demand, conveys the waste through a trap seal into a gravity drainage system.

4. Who are the parties that may be interested in this notice?

Interested parties include manufacturers and users of ceramic plumbing fixtures, certain trade associations, state and local municipalities, water utilities, and advocacy groups for environmental stewardship.

5. How does an interested party comment on this notice and when are comments due?

The comment period for this rule will be 30 days, beginning on the date in which this notice publishes in the Federal Register. Interested parties may submit comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or via email to PlumbingProducts2017TP0028@ee.doe.gov, identified with docket number EERE-2017-BT-TP-0028. Comments may also be submitted via postal mail or hand delivery by following the instructions found in the notice.